

# CANNING CONTRIBUTES

## Canning, South Dakota

Founded 1883

The town of Canning was founded and platted in 1883 by George Harris (County Commissioner in 1883 and in 1884 was the third Hughes County Sheriff). The town of Canning was named for George Canning, Chief Engineer of the C. & N. W. Ry. Company. At that time Canning had a population of approximately 275.

The leading business houses in 1883 consisted of three hotels, 2 restaurants, two hardware stores, two saloons, one meat market and one barber shop. M. E. Billings was the first grocery merchant in Canning.

On the 27th day of February, 1885, the Winnebago and the Crow Creek Reservation were opened up for settlement-the village of Canning took on a new life and the population was increased by about 75 persons. Later, owing to drought conditions, the town began to dwindle away.

J. W. Pyne built a first class flour mill (hydraulic power) which was operated for about three years and then went out of business because of drought conditions.

The present population of Canning in 1934 is about 75; and the leading business houses consist of two stores, Post Office and two garages.

Some of the old timers were:

M. E. Billings-Grocery Store

Martin Luther-Grocery Store

Scott Thompson-Hardware Store

Zack Thompson-Hardware Store

Mr. Berry-Hardware Store

Socrates Drew-Established Canning Bank in 1884

Mr. Evans-Restaurant

Richard Opey-Barber Shop

Fred Deringinger-Real Estate Office

Ole Beam-Saloon

John O'Dowd-Saloon

Mr. Stacy-Butcher Shop

Walter Stevens-Carpenter

John Kramer-C. & N. W. Ry.

The above is a contribution from John Kramer who has been a continuous resident of Canning since 1883.

### CANNING

From the Oct. 13, 1883 file, Blunt Advocate

This compact and beautifully located little village is situated on the main line of the C. & N. W. Ry. in the Medicine Valley about 10 miles

southwest of Blunt, surrounded by a very large area of the richest farming lands in southern Dakota, and as it lies adjoining the Old Winnebago Indian Reservation, its citizens and merchants will be among the first to receive the benefits of the vast tract of land now awaiting only the President's proclamation for its final opening to actual settlers. Canning has fine water power, with fall sufficient to operate a grist mill of four run of buhrs, by the virtue of which a mill in the near future is assured. The town also affords a fine opportunity to the right man for the manufacturing of bricks, having all the natural advantages requisite to the successful carrying on of this branch of the industry. The citizens of Canning are composed of thoroughly stirring people, of whom the following may be classed as the foremost:

George W. Harris, principal owner of the town-site, is a large stock raiser of the vicinity and owns over 900 acres of land.

Miles E. Redick, also one of the owners of the town-site, is station agent and Postmaster.

M. E. Billings seems to be comfortably located and doing a nice business in the grocery, flour and feed line.

O'Crowley & Barry are the hardware dealers. They carry a very large stock and apparently receiving a liberal share of the public patronage.

## Canning Man Has Rare Book

Book Was Published In 1865, and Contains Papers and Messages of Abraham Lincoln

One evening when snow bound at his home in Canning, Leon Redick was sitting comfortably by the family radio and happened to hear on one program that there was a great demand for rare books.

After a brief meditation, he recalled to himself that his father was an old Civil War officer, and was a great lover of books.

After searching around through the attic at his home that evening he came upon a dust laden book which was among his father's possessions, entitled "The Life and Public Service of Abraham Lincoln."

This book includes all state papers, including the speeches, addresses, messages, letters and proclamations and the closing scenes, connected with his life and death. Anecdotes and personal reminiscences of President Lincoln together with steel portraits and other illustrations are also shown in this rare find.

This book was published in 1865, at which time the New York Times was then in the 15th year of its publication, and was then known as one of the most firmly established and successful newspapers in the United States.

Though this book is in a rather tattered condition, and shows water stains, it may prove to be of exceptional value to the Redick family.

## What Happened to John Kramer

Fifty years ago Horace Greeley said, "Go West young man, go West." Mr. Kramer took this advice and came to Canning in 1883 where he has been living ever since. He and other old settlers deserve much credit for their strong determination to stick it out through all the hardships that befell them. It was about fifty years ago that he helped construct the railroad through Canning. He has faithfully served the company many years-most of the time as section boss. The first train that went through was not as efficient, and it didn't have as many cars as the trains that run now. He thinks it is quite a jump from the old-fashioned steam locomotive to the present electric trains. At any rate it has more speed, silence and power. These trains have helped somewhat to make Canning more lively although Mr. Kramer regrets that it is so dead compared to what it used to be. Two hundred and fifty people lived here when they first came. Houses both large and small dotted the hills. In the days of the horse and buggy there used to be many dances. This form of amusement took the place of movies.

When the dry seasons came the people became so discouraged, that most of them pulled up stakes and went back to their native states. Mrs. Kramer's brother sold his homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres for ninety dollars. Many others did likewise. When so many people were leaving, the land was reopened to settlement. This time Mr. Kramer only had to live on the homestead one day out of every month in order to hold it. They had more than their share of hardships too. The roads and other means of transportation were poor; therefore, it was hard for them to get their products to market. They used to raise sugar cane and take it down to the sorghum mill which was right across the creek from where Doty's now live. Some of the old machinery is still there. A big tunnel was dug through the hills to use in the mill. Rather close to the mill was a large still. The liquor made here was sold in the saloons of Canning. Besides the saloons, Canning had other houses of business; namely, a blacksmith shop, a drug store, Doctor Meyers' office, three hotels, two restaurants and two land offices.

The Indians often gave them scares. When the two Indian reservations were opened, the Indian warriors used to come to Canning and have their war dances.-Anna Jorgensen.

## Experiences of Mr. George Coates

Mr. Coates came to Canning in the 80's. He had many thrilling experiences. The following is what he told me when I visited him.

Canning was established in 1880 when a railroad was put through by a civil engineer named Canning. This engineer surveyed out the place where the railroad was to be built. A railroad station was built along the track, north of where Clayton Nye's house now stands. There was also a water supply tank there.

Canning met its first boom, under Pres. Arthur's administration when he opened the Winnebago Reservation, south of town. This Reservation was opened by proclamation in 1885. On March 4, a new president was elected and he closed the reservation, after it had been open about sixty days. Before this reservation had been opened, 1000 Indians camped along the ridge waiting and protesting against the opening of it. After it was opened many white settlers also rushed in. In 1886, after the reservation had been closed, soldiers marched from Ft. Sully, removed the settlers from the reservation and marched on down to the Big Bend. The people that were forced off, were paid by the government. This helped them for they all needed money. Seven families remained on the reservation.

There was also a flour mill in Canning; the building was wooden, but later it fell, so it was replaced by a stone building in 1888, but this building burned down. A creamery was then erected. Mr. Estal Pyne was the one who operated the flour mill. The power to run this mill was gained by digging a tunnel through the hill and connecting it with the spring on the other side. Mr. Kramer helped dig this tunnel.

Mr. Stoddard started an irrigation garden on the place where Doty's live. He received the water to irrigate it through pipes connected with the spring. These pipes still remain and can easily be seen.-Ida Patzer.

## From Mace Samco

I have been asked to give an account of myself since coming into the state. Our family came to Blunt the spring of 1883 from Clinton, Iowa, where I was born the fall of 1875. My father came to Blunt the spring of 1882 to file on a homestead and filed on S.E. of 35, Summit Township, Sully County. We lived there until the fall of 1888 and moved to Blunt, and the spring of 1889 moved north of Pierre where Mrs. Pietrus now lives. My father passed away the summer of 1890 and my mother decided to move to Pierre. She moved a house we owned at Blunt (now the Bert Hall home in East Pierre) and lived there until she disposed of it in 1915. My mother and sister, who is Mrs. Chas. Stough, moved to the west coast and my mother died at the remarkable age of 95 years.

As a young man I worked at anything I could get to do. John Erickson hired me as a flunky behind the counter in his restaurant, the old Owl restaurant as most of you old timers know. I worked some time for John and one night after work he came to me and said, "Mace, how would you like clerking in a store?" Of course, I was all ears and thought that would be fine. John said, "Mr. Lockhart would like to have you clerk in his store." So I went to work at once and worked for him eight years or until he sold out. While working in the store I took a fancy to a young lady and married her. She was a South Dakota product as she was born at Sioux Falls. We have 4 children that have grown into man and womanhood.

In the spring of 1910 I bought the W. S. Nye business, a general store at Canning where I have resided up to the present time. Credit is due John Erickson and J. L. Lockhart for the friendship they gave me as a young man and started me out on the right road to success. I am the same Mace Samco you old timers knew at Blunt 54 years ago.

## Former Canning Resident Dies

Hot Springs, March 19, 1936-J. H. Gould, 87, Civil war veteran who, as a boy of 13 years was said to have increased his age to become a drummer boy in the union troops, was dead today.

Last Civil war veteran at the Battle Mountain sanitorium, John Hamilton Gould died here Tuesday, the day before his 88th birthday, of old age infirmities.

Born in Ontario, Canada, his career included military life, book selling, wood turning, commercial traveling, ranching, real estate work and managing a general store.

L. B. Gould, a surviving son, lives in Portland, Ore.

Mr. Gould is well known in this territory, having for nearly twenty years, been in the farming and ranching business near Canning. He was a well known figure in county politics, having served at one time on the county board.

## James Elwood DeHart

James Elwood DeHart, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. William DeHart, was born in the state of Ohio July 29, 1858 and passed from this life Friday, January 18, 1935 at 4:50 A. M., at the age of 76 years, 5 months and 19 days.

His childhood days were spent in Ohio, moving to Illinois when but a lad. Later he moved to Indiana and spent several years of his life in that state. He came to South Dakota in 1881, two years preceding his parents and family, locating near Blunt.

He leaves to mourn his passing four brothers: Rolland, Lyman, Scott and Charles and one sister, Mrs. Alta Thompson, all of Canning, and many other relatives and friends. His father preceded him in death in 1891 and his mother followed ten years later, also three brothers, Arthur, Andrew and William.

## The Deharts

William and Lovina Dehart came from North Rhode, Ind. in 1883 and settled in Blunt. Jim, the oldest son, came to Pierre in 1881 and later located 3 miles north of Canning on, a homestead, where he lived for 7 years. He then made his home in Deadwood and Canning until his death on January 18, 1935.

William homesteaded north of Canning in 1883 and lived there for

15 years, engaging in farming and stock raising. He then moved to the old George Harris place just west of Canning. Roll, Liman, Scott, Andrew, Arthur, Alta and Charles are the other children. Andrew, Willie and Arthur are deceased. Those living reside in Canning.

Twenty-five years ago Jim ran a big ranch for W. W. Waite in Good-water township in Sully county. He farmed a thousand acres and ran from 200 to 300 cattle. Mr. Waite was interested in the Hughes County Bank, Blunt, which started in 1882 and has now been closed over 20 years. William the father died January 10, 1891. His wife passed away March 14, 1901 and both are buried at Blunt.

#### Obituary

Mrs. Lovina Dehart, a highly esteemed resident of Canning, after a short illness, died at her home Thursday morning, March 14th, 1901, aged 63 years, 6 months and 17 days.

She was born in Coshocton Co., Ohio, August 27, 1837. She was married to William Dehart, March 10, 1856. She leaves eight children, seven sons and one daughter.

At an early age she embraced religion and united with the Christian church and lived a kindly generous life.

Her last hours were calm and peaceful and we feel that she now knows "How beautiful it is to be with God" and the loved ones who have gone before.

Although she has passed from life, she lives in the thoughts, the affections of many.

Bright, fragrant flowers were all about her, fond tributes to her memory from her many friends, while she is "resting sweetly resting."

Jesus has called her hence, to bloom

In Paradise, more fair,

His own immortal bower, to shed

A richer influence there.

A Friend.

### The Nye and Coates Families

Thomas Nye and family came to Hughes County in 1886 from Wisconsin. He filed on land 2 miles south and  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles west of Canning; here he farmed for several years until he disposed of his land, and moved out of the county. His son Willard stayed in the county as a farmer and stock raiser. Later he located  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile west of Canning. He engaged in banking and other interests in Canning.

He crossed the wide river into a more blessed world in 1931. His son, Clayton, operates the old home ranch and Mrs. Nye, his widow, lives in a cottage in Canning.

George Coates came to Dakota from Scotsville, New York, in 1885. For a number of years he lived three miles west of Canning where he was foreman of the McDonald horse ranch. At one time he was also

in the sheep business. In later life he served several terms as county commissioner. Mr. Coates read much and took an active interest in public affairs, although handicapped by excessive weight and a permanently disabled foot.

One of the largest funerals held in the Canning church assembled for the last rites for George Coates. The service was conducted by Rev. Benjamin Schwab, of Pierre.

## The Redicks

Albert Redick was wed to Edna Willis in 1883. They first lived in Hughes County on the homestead of Miles Redick, Albert's brother, two miles northwest of Canning. Albert later moved to Canning and ran a store; he was also depot operator in the early days. Later they moved to the river near where the Baade place now is and remained there for a number of years. In 1925 they moved to Arkansas. Mr. Redick died in 1934 and his body was returned to Blunt for burial. His widow resides at Perry, Ark. with her son, Will. Bert Redick is in Portland, Oregon; Myra is dead; Dot is Mrs. Homer Duggins; Jenny Gunderson is in Huron; Edna Bloomenrader lives in Highmore; Leon is in Washington.

The Redick family was well known throughout the county and their many friends will be pleased to get this reminder about them.

-Alta Thompson.

## Pastors at Canning

Alta Thompson has furnished the names of the following as being pastors of the Canning community church.

Manford Ash;-Works; Roy Kofski; Bert Rayson; Gordon Granger; -Trodi; W. F. Doty; Hannah Groseth; Roemeg;-Colson;-Pryther;-Davis;-Hood; Harry F. Taplin.

## "The Challenge of Our Pioneers"

Much has been accomplished by our Founders in achieving the real objectives of the National Congress. New goals have been reached. Difficulties have been met and overcome. The path of the pioneers has not always been smooth, but it has pointed toward a definite goal--the goal of child welfare.

We accept the challenge of the pioneers who turned their patient ox-teams to the west and builded there a home.

"Staunch hearts had they, these builders of our prairie homes,

They builded well and into the firm fabric of their dreams,  
They wove the prairies' tranquil peace, the strength of rugged hills,  
Their faith in God, themselves, and this fair land."-Gertrude E. Flyte.

-S. D. Parent Teacher, Jan., 1937.

# RURAL HUGHES RESPONDS

## Hughes County Rural School Assn.

The oldest written record we have of this organization was in 1928. Apparently it was formed in the fall of 1927, with the following officers elected: Josephine Bos, president; Anna O. Hall, vice president; Wm. C. Buol, secretary-treasurer.

**PURPOSE:** The educational advancement of the rural schools in Hughes county.

**MEMBERSHIP & DUES:** Anyone interested in the above objective was eligible for membership upon payment of dues; at the beginning they were set at \$1.50. Later anyone paying the S.D.E.A. dues of \$1.50 was accepted into the membership without further charge.

**ANNUAL OBJECTIVES:** Each fall an executive committee of 5 members is set up. The county superintendent and president of the organization are automatically members; 3 more are selected by the president, one to be from each rural commissioner district. They recommend objectives or projects for the year but final action is taken by the membership of the organization which may accept, change or reject the various proposals.

Here are samples of projects which have been adopted. Exhibits, Y.C.L. and P.T.A. extension, teachers' chorus, newsletters, speaking and spelling contests, better penmanship, compiling a bibliography for unit study, compiling a Hughes County History.

The officers for the years following 1927-28 are:

1928-29 Orva R. Olson, president; Ethel Byrum, vice president; Claribel Bronemann, secretary-treasurer.

1929-30 Mrs. Ethel Kinyon, president; Martha Carlin, vice president; Marie Sias, secretary-treasurer.

1930-31 Mrs. Evangeline Dolan, president; Mazen Owens, vice president; Orville Hoefer, secretary-treasurer.

1932-33 Mrs. Marjorie Calhoon, president; Clara Goglin, vice president; Blanche Crow, secretary-treasurer.

1932-33 Mrs. Marjorie Calhoon, president; Clara Goglin, vice president; Delila J. Bane, secretary-treasurer.

1933-34 Alice H. Westover, president; Evelyn McCall, vice president; Clara Goglin, secretary; Zetta Laughlin, treasurer.

1934-35 Carol Gunnison, president; Katherine Bruce, vice president; Stella Stephenson, secretary; Zetta Laughlin, treasurer.

1935-36 Mildred Roda, president; Ethel Robley, vice president; Luella Siegel, secretary; Mary Ellen Byrum, treasurer.

1936-37 Ethel Robley, president; Katherine Bruce, vice president; Kathryn Hogan, secretary-treasurer.



## "Tribute To The Pioneer Mother"

We cannot begin to bestow upon you the crown that you have so graciously won. You have always been the hub upon which all great civilization has revolved.

We love to glance upon your strong courage, to leave a good comfortable home, to follow and help your venturesome mate build and settle a new country. Oh! the heartaches and the homesickness that you have endured. We love those toil-worn hands; hands that have worked diligently and soothed many a sad and discouraged heart.

Your perserverance, love, kindness, ingenuity, purity, hospitality, devotedness, and strength of character have withstood the raging storm of time. You have laid the firm foundation for this splendid development of ours.

You have handed to us modern daughters, a torch of fine achievement. Let us hold it high.-Sylvia Edge.

## P. T. A. In Hughes County

The idea of parents and teachers working together in the interest of the child is not new. The headmaster of a school in London several centuries ago wrote: "Teachers and parents should be linked in amity and continual conference for their common charge."

In 1897 Mrs. Theodore Birney and Mrs. Phoebe Hearst called a meeting of mothers in Washington, D. C. and put the idea into concrete form by organizing the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

In the forty years since, the movement has spread into every state and on to Hawaii, Alaska and District of Columbia.

The P. T. A. is altruistic in its objectives; it is non-sectarian, non-political and non-commercial.

South Dakota has more than 11,000 members comprised in 160 units.

We read and hear much these days that parents should be trained for the job of parenthood; that they need education along lines of child study so that the child and his problems might be better understood, and that he might be given wiser guidance in his physical, mental and moral development, and in his social adjustment.

A parent-teacher association, together with its study group and the splendid articles in the National Parent-Teacher Magazine (which is the official organ of the P. T. A.) provides one means for obtaining this education-and it is within reach of all.

Hughes county teachers are ever alert for worthwhile ideas that will raise the standard of efficiency in the schools and increase their influence for good. Under the superintendency of both C. E. Westover and Bert L. Hall the P. T. A. idea has been fostered and a number of schools are working with five units: Byron-Sunnyside-Logan; Four-Square; Rousseau; Springdale; De Grey. These are joined as a County Council. In Pierre there are four units, working together as a city council; they are Lincoln; Washington; Senior-Junior Hi; McKinley.

The writer knows more about Lincoln P. T. A. and will include a few facts concerning its history, tho the early records cannot be found. However since a membership card signed by Mrs. E. H. Wood as local president and Mrs. S. H. Scallon as State President is in her possession, it is known that the unit was in existence prior, or during Mrs. Scallon's presidency which was in 1915, and Mrs. Chas. McCaffrey was local president before Mrs. Wood. Lincoln P. T. A. has functioned continuously except during the World War, when the members engaged in pulling oakem, knitting and Red Cross work.

The presidents of Lincoln P. T. A. have been Mrs. Chas. McCaffrey, Mrs. E. H. Wood, Mrs. A. L. Hegglund, Mrs. B. W. Baer, Mrs. F. G. Allen, Mr. David Radcliffe, Mrs. Glenn Martens, Mrs. Archie Potter, Mr. Art Lindstrom, Mrs. D. W. Loucks, Mrs. Dana McNeil, Mrs. D. W. Loucks, Mrs. Arthur Turner, Mrs. Glenn Doren, Mrs. A. R. Potter, Mr. Behrens. Mrs. Karl Graf has been elected president for the coming year, 1937-38. Mrs. Harry Notmeyer, Mrs. Robert Bagby, Mrs. Archie Potter and Supt. R. E. Rawlins have been active members in P. T. A. longer than anyone else in Pierre.

The brick used in building Lincoln, Washington and the old Central schools were made by Mr. Ward, assisted by Wm. Schumacher, in the brick yard just west of the bridge, and were hauled to the building sites by Mortimer Root.

Later Carrie Ward (the daughter) and Wm Schumacker were wed and made their home in Fielder. Edna, their daughter graduated from our high school, class of '26 and their grandson, Junior, is a member of the sophomore class at the present time.

-Mrs. Archie Potter.

Springdale P. T. A. was organized October 20, 1933.

Names of all presidents in order since then: Mrs. Oscar Payne, Mrs. Gertrude Clark, Mrs. Albert Burki, Mrs. James Burley, Mrs. Oscar Payne.

This unit has also been faithful attenders at district and county conferences.

The presidents of Washington P. T. A., of whom we have record are: H. L. Eveland, Glen Preston, J. Fred Olander, Bert L. Hall, Mrs. J. W. Raish, C. E. Westover, Mrs. Will Smith, Emil Jassman, Mrs. E. J. Kelson, R. W. Kraushaar, Mrs. Howard Trask, Bert L. Hall. Mrs. A. R. Potter says that the unit was likely formed about 1920 when a Miss Carberry came out from the national office and was instrumental in starting this P. T. A. She was also of service in re-organizing the Lincoln unit which had neglected the P. T. A. objectives and program due to the press of emergency effort in World War requirements.

4-Square P. T. A. was organized in the fall of 1932. The Presidents who have served are, Harry Morse, 1932 to 1934; C. E. Westover, 1934-35; Katherine Bruce, 1935-36; Mrs. Will Vanderwaal, 1936-38.

Byron-Sunnyside P. T. A. was organized in the fall of 1929. Officers since that time:

| President                     | Vice President     | Sec-Treasurer       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1929-31-Mrs. Sam Fry          | George Schmidt     | Mrs. C. S. Pietrus  |
| 1931-32-Mrs. Gilbert Pearson  | Will Hickey        | Mrs. H. B. Lambert  |
| 1932-33-Chas. S. Pietrus      | Will Hickey G      | ilbert Pearson      |
| 1933-34-Chas. S. Pietrus      | Mrs. Will Hickey   | Margaret Ellis      |
| 1934-35-Mrs. Chas. S. Pietrus | Mrs. Arthur Miller | Mrs. Henry Ellis    |
| 1935-36-Mrs. Will Hickey      | Mrs. C. S. Pietrus | Mrs. Raymond Siegel |
| 1936-37-Mrs. A. Glassmaker    | Mrs. C. S. Pietrus | Mrs. Will Hickey    |

In 1936 Logan district joined in with this unit and the name was changed to Byron-Logan P. T. A. --Mrs. C. S. Pietrus.

The Pierre City Council was organized in March 1937 with the following officers elected. Mrs. W. F. Cochrane, president; Mrs. Chas. Carr, vice president; Mrs. Ed Jacobs, secretary-treasurer.

The Hughes County Council was formed in February 1933 at the Lincoln school building in Pierre. Each Founders" day since there has been an observance sponsored by the Council to which all units of the county were invited. The officers of the Council since its instigation are as follows:

| President                     | V. President     | Secretary            | Treasurer        |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1933-1934- Mrs. Archie Potter | Harry Morse      | Margurite Mannaugh   | Sarah Burki      |
| 1935-1936- Bert L. Hall       | Harry Morse      | Mrs. Charles Pietrus | Sarah Burki      |
| 1937 C. E. Westover           | Mrs. O. E. Payne | Mrs. Byron Swartz    | Mrs. Anton maker |

A P. T. A. was started at Central in 1933 with Mrs. Guy Erickson as president. In 1934 Senior Hi organized with Mrs. Archie Potter as president. In 1935 Junior-Senior was launched and has progressed with the following presidents. Mrs. Bert Neiber, Mrs. Oscar Johnson and Mrs. W. F. Cochrane.

Rousseau was founded about 1928 with Mrs. Perry McGaffee as president; presidents who followed were, Mrs. Frank C. Hall, Mrs. Perry McGaffee, Mrs. Byron F. Swartz, Mrs. Sam McGaffee, Mrs. Byron Swartz, Mrs. Glen Heiserman.

McKinley unit was organized in January 1936. The presidents have been Mrs. A. F. Core, Mrs. Art Miller and Mrs. Earl Boysen. The circle of P. T. A.'s were pleased to add this new association.

DeGrey P. T. A. came into existence in the fall of 1936, with the following officers in charge: Mrs. Will Harvey, president; Mrs. Kenneth Ackman; ; Mrs. Amos Bartlett, secretary; Lew Richards, treasurer. Same officers re-elected in 1937.



Grace E. Matteson, Co. Supt. 1921-25

Dear Mr. Hall:

I am glad to contribute briefly on the growth of Contest and Exhibit activity during my 4 years in office.

Am sure my predecessor, Miss Daisy Solberg, had selected 2 children to represent Hughes county in the state fair spelling contest, 1921. This was probably the first attempt for representation in that state-wide grade pupil test of skill.

Some unfavorable criticism came from conscientious patrons and school officers. Their idea was that this was expenditure for a "fad" outside the 3 R's which had been predominant factors in their own school days.

How could I best help teachers to really help parents and school officials to realize that the "3 R's" were still taught, not as an end in themselves, however, but as a means of accomplishing something practical in every day life.

County contest organization with regular school work in the foreground seemed to offer the best solution. Accordingly efforts were made along that line. The cause advanced slowly but surely with a gratifying number of prizes won at the State Fair each year.

The first year only a very few schools furnished exhibits. However the idea spread and grew until the climax was reached in 1925, when the contest was held at Canning. There every school did its part and a large crowd was in attendance. Thanks to the efforts of Bert L. Hall, Superintendent of the Schools then and Co. Supt. of Schools-elect, athletics were introduced for the first time.

The great array of practical, as well as artistic displays of school work brought forth many exclamations of surprise, admiration and gratification.

That the schools were actually doing worth while things, seemed to be realized by all who attended.

Am glad to note that my successors, you and Carlos Westover, have carried on and improved the work.

-Grace E. Matteson, Ex. Co. Supt.

## Children Tell of M. C. Rousseau

We remember that father had a store in our big house on the hill west of Rousseau in 1883 and later he built a building close to the Northwestern tracks. In 1885 the contents of the store were moved to the latter building which was struck by lightning in 1887 and burned down. He had a store in Fort Pierre in the early days and later sold it to George Mathieson; this was doubtless in 1870, but Charley Fales could tell more definitely. Mace Martin and Steve Travis also knew our father and knew his dealings quite well.

I would like a copy of the speech that father made which was in the box in the cornerstone of the old Hughes county court house. I am sure that John Hipple of the Capital Journal has it. The Journal and Guide here have asked me for it several times. We believe that Charles De Land wrote our father's memoirs. Father was 19 years old when he came here about 1859.

Marcel Cyril Rousseau was born May 15, 1836 and came here from Montreal, Canada, about the date indicated above. He was married January 12, 1869 to Cleophee Mercier. He often told us how he lived on rose buds and buffalo berries nine days while hiding in the woods when the Indians were on the warpath. That was before he was married.

The children are as follows: Cleophas, Vapid City; Amedee, died 1935; Oscar, LaPlant; Marcelline Benton, died 1907; Cyril, probably in Ohio; Eugene, died 1936; Joseph, died 1896; Regina Powell, Fort Pierre; Albert, died 1933.

While driving home from Fort Pierre with a team on Sept. 6, 1902 father died, probably from a heart attack. He then ran a store and post office on the Cheyenne River, 6 miles up from the mouth. Mother died in 1888 and was buried on the hill above our home at Rousseau in Hughes county; some others were buried there too. She and father are now resting in the Fort Pierre burial ground.

-Regina Powell and Cleophas Rousseau.

Note: The father's speech mentioned above, if in the old court house cornerstone, was put back in the box sealed in the new cornerstone. Sophie De Land, a sister of Charles, did not find a manuscript on M. C. Rousseau when going over the papers of her deceased brother.

-Supt. Hall.

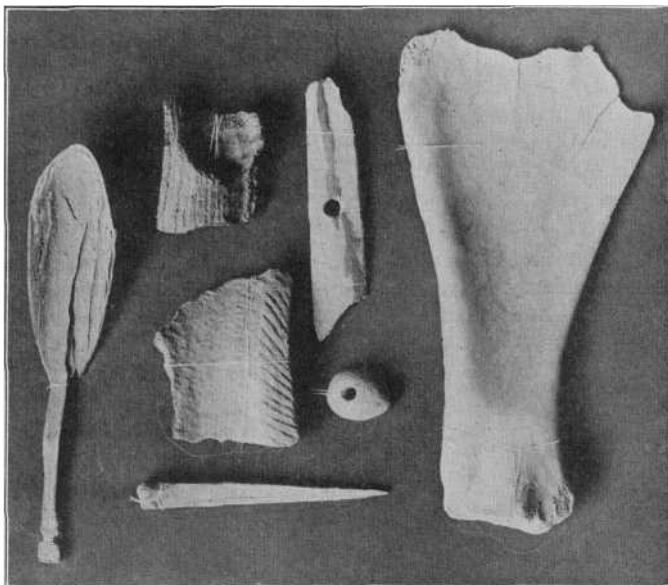
## Sam & Sadie

Sam McGaffee came to Hughes county in the winter of 1897 and homesteaded south of where Charles Hazelrigg now lives, down the river from De Grey. Charley's father, D. O. and family were not yet here.

Mr. McGaffee farmed a little and raised stock. In May, 1907 he married Sadie Kelley. They had only one child, Samuel J. He acquired some prominence as a radio singer, having a rich baritone voice.

For some years they lived in the upper end of Raber township but moved to the Pete Laughlin place below De Grey about 1912. The McGaffee's gained an intimate acquaintance with the Indian families who lived on the reservation below. It was quite common for the Redmen to stop at their farm to buy and barter for wood, chickens, dairy products, meat, etc.

Sam was a lover and competent judge of good horses and usually had a number of better animals on hand. The McGaffees now reside between Pierre and Rousseau and Sadie is still one of the best cooks along the river.



### Indian Relics Found Near De Grey

Some *very* fine relics have been picked up on the site of an old Ree Indian village near De Grey. The Grandle family has a fine collection of arrowheads, including one large white flint arrow notched down both sides. Also a long slender point of a peculiar glossy substance. They also have a number of clam shell ornaments.

There are small pipestone pipes, carved pipestone ornaments, many spear points, knives and thumbstones, a perfect bone awl, a polished bone bead, and some human bones.

The George Bowman family found two large hollowed-out rocks for grinding. Another has prints of the whorls of the fingers.

Some pottery is colored red on the outside, some red on the inside. A few pieces are cord marked. The others are decorated quite artistically with straight lines.

I dug about ten minutes in a mound and turned up a perfect bone awl. I turned over tons of dirt after that without finding anything of value. The light porous lava had been picked up by the Indians along the river, down which it had floated from the mountains. It was used for sharpening, boring, scraping and cutting tools.

I have a large awl made from a rib and a small bowl carved from stone.

-By Mrs. Will S. Harvey.

## Kossuth M. Byrum

Kossuth M. Byrum was born September 20, 1852 in Joe Davis county Illinois, and passed away at St. Mary's hospital in Pierre, Saturday morning, September 20, 1934, after a lingering illness, at the age of 82 years and 9 days.

He came to South Dakota where he was a rancher for eleven years in Sully county and west of the river.

On December 15, 1897, he was united in marriage to Eva Ann Rubel of Le Mars, Iowa. To this union six children were born. He lived in Iowa nine years after the marriage. After this he returned to South Dakota and resided in Hughes county until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eva Ann Bryum; three sons and three daughters, Paul, Ray, Lee Roy, and Mary Ellen of De Grey, Mrs. John Kinyon, of Harrold, and Mrs. Merle Sinclair of Harrison, Idaho; three sisters, Mrs. Hattie Wiley and Mrs. Huldie McCowin, of Rockford, Illinois, and Mrs. Cora Tucker of Stockton, Illinois; four brothers, Charles of Onida, Elezer of White Lake and Joe and Coe of Stockton, Illinois.

## The Rodas

In 1880 Fred Roda came from Rochester, New York, with his folks who located at Groton, S. D. At the age of 21 he started out with Will Welhrouch, Marion Masters and Nick Groce with a team of oxen to look for a homestead. After traveling as far west as White river, they turned back and located temporarily near Pierre. Fred and Will homesteaded near DeGrey. Mr. Roda resided on his homestead until his death in October, 1936. He was buried at Riverside, Pierre.

In 1889 he married Marie Hausman and to them 8 children were born of which 7 are still living: Orva R. Olson, Ben Franklin clerk; Velma La Roche, Corona, California; Crystal, Cleveland, Ohio; Mildred, teacher near Pierre; Erma Bronemann, teacher near Harrold; Vern, Brookings; Ivan, dead; Irene, student Northern Normal.

The Roda family have been noted for their frugal ways and their interest in education. Mr. Roda surrounded his home with a cedar shel-

ter-belt; also elms which were quite vigorous until drought' and hoppers became so detrimental to vegetation. Mrs. Roda still lives on the homestead.

## Lew Richards' Story

Lew Richards arrived in this county from Wisconsin in the spring of 1884. He was 19 years old when he arrived at Blunt. He came with his father, Robert F. Richards. The other children in Robert's family were Merwin, Winifred, Birdie, Roy and Hobart. The father left here in 1904; both he and his wife are still living at Aberdeen. Lew's mother was 82 on March 3, 1937.

Robert Richards while at Blunt was a harness maker. Lew spent most of his time running cattle west of Blunt until about 1910. Later he farmed his mother's  $\frac{1}{2}$  section in Pleasant Valley Twp. for a few years. In September, 1917, he married Ruby Helen Cooper. Lew had been staying at the W. S. Sparks' home but after marrying he and his wife moved to the De Grey neighborhood. Mrs. Richards died July 16, 1933, and was buried at the Gidding's Cemetery. The mother left 5 children.

Lew says the drought was tough in 1900; they had to go to Hyde County to make hay. But he thinks the past few years we have passed through have been the toughest in his experience. In 1900-01 anthrax caused a big livestock loss especially along the Chapelle Creek. Little was known about the disease then; vaccine came from France. Large numbers of cattle died quickly and many of them were not burned. Lew helped dump 90 head in the Olney cistern and the Wellman well, 6 or 7 miles southeast of Blunt; he was working for Ed Carey. In the Richards' herd were 125 head and half of these were lost with anthrax.

During the days when people were pulling out, the streets of Blunt were crowded with prairie schooners, horses, oxen, mules and cows till traffic was badly blocked at times. Some went east driving the familiar Democrat buggy.

## "Mort" Howard Passes On

Mort Howard came to Sully County in 1881 and filed on a homestead. He shipped his goods to Blunt in 1882 and practically all there was at the station was a platform. The other structure was the land office building. His father and a brother, Link, also made filings in Sully County. They took tree claims and put out many trees but the ravages of bad years have destroyed most of them. Arnold, a Pierre barber, still has a living grove in that county, not far from trail 83.

Mort farmed on a large scale and used one of the first tractors ever brought into the county. He did blacksmithing and threshing for his neighborhood, using horse power and many times lengthened out the long autumn days at this strenuous work. He did not move to Hughes County until 1910 and was rewarded with good crops here as he was in



Sully County; yet endured the many hardships which all pioneers experienced.

Later he did truck gardening extensively near Rousseau. While there he saw three floods on the Missouri; the last one in 1927 brought water up to the chair bottoms in his house.

It should have been related before that in 1880 he married Evelyn McClure, a Sully County girl. Their children were: Harrison, Noma Baade, Cecila, Delby Fergusson, Iona B. Putnam, Corbot and Clark. The mother died In 1933 and a year later the father died and both are buried in the Onida Cemetery.



As mentioned above Mort was all early power farmer owning a Twin City tractor; a forge and blacksmith outfit was stationed in the field to straighten out plow beams and shares which needed frequent attention on account of the rocks. At times he also had considerable stock and suffered substantial loss in some of the bad winters. His family knew the limitations of sod houses and straw sheds.

## The Baade Family

Fred Baade moved from Michigan to Aberdeen in 1880 and later filed on a homestead in Day county. He helped build the Milwaukee road east from Aberdeen. He also farmed with oxen during the farming season. He worked at well drilling and helped in the harvest fields. Breaking the virgin sod with oxen was strenuous work but in those years they were rewarded with bountiful crops; wheat ran about 20 bushels per acre and was worth \$1.00 a bushel. When the farmer went to town he took wheat and traded it for groceries, furniture or whatever he needed; not much money changed hands. In the '90's many people left, some walking out, some driving in carts, etc. Those who stayed came out and made money.

In 1904 he came to Hughes county reaching Harrold on the railroad with a few oxen and cows. He located near Giddings, 20 miles southwest of Harrold. An anthrax epidemic broke out and he lost all but one big white ox which had strayed back as far as Harrold. This he sold to a buyer for \$30. Experiencing this hard luck he walked to Pierre looking for work and was happy to get a job on the government gang which was rip rapping Marion's Island to protect Fort Pierre. Later he helped to put in and take out the pontoon bridge across the river. In 1897 he worked for the North Western railway and continued for 9 years as section foreman. In 1906 he moved down to De Grey township where he has since resided. In 1888 he had married Alvina Metz at Webster. She died in 1920 and was buried at Pierre. Fred died in 1933 at St. Mary's hospital at the age of 72 and was buried in Pierre. The children are Frank and Martin.

He often mentioned the panic of 1895-96; most people had no money except for the bare necessities. A government project of rip rapping the Missouri bank for quite a distance below Pierre helped many a homesteader; in fact every profession almost from a goldsmith to a hobo was employed. Most all of the work was done with wheel barrows except the hauling down of the boulders from the hills to the north. Though times were hard then they are worse now with more people being unemployed and grasshoppers, beetles and hot winds devastating gardens and crops.

Fred was a great booster in a quiet way and had implicit faith in this country. He was able to judge it because he traveled considerably. He was noted for his thrift and always believed that a farmer or stock man should keep two years of feed and seed on hand.

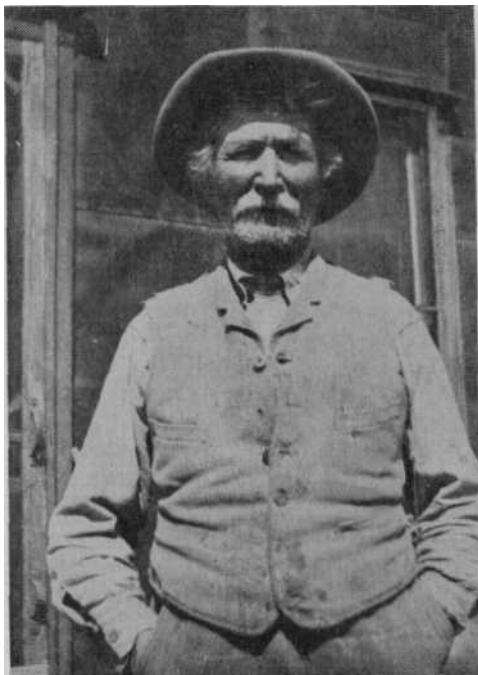
## Reminiscences of Henry Lewis Jones

H. L. Jones (mostly plain "Hank") came to this locality in 1866 by joining a mule team loaded with provisions for old Ft. Sully.

In 1871 Mr. Jones participated in the removal of the Spotted Tail Indians from Whetstone, their Agency, four miles above Wheeler, to the Big White Clay creek, near Crow Butte.

He worked for the J. W. Bosler Cattle Co. of Omaha, "Bill" Paxton of that place being the general superintendent. They had the contract for furnishing beef to the Indian agencies along the Missouri. He worked for this company four years. In 1875, while in their employ, he married Miss Theresa DeGrey, a mixed blood Sioux.

In the spring of 1876 he quit the Bosler outfit and started three wood yards, the same being at Ft. George Island; at the mouth of Chapelle creek, and near the present King & Taylor buildings south of De Grey. He also opened two road ranches, one at the head of Chain de Roche south of the John Sayer buildings and the other at the Charley DeGrey place, south of the present DeGrey post office. A road ranch was a place where meals were served and teams fed for the traveling public. Travelers usually carried their beds.



Mr. Jones died April 17, 1927

A little colony started to lay out a townsite about where Logan Duff now lives, which is northwest of the Massey store about 40 rods. They named it Winnebago City. Will Ingham put out a newspaper shingle and the project looked like a sure go. (Mr. Ingham died last year at Miles City.) But hopes of the newcomers were doomed to disappointment. (Note: Pres. Cleveland closed the reservation to settlement.)

On July 1, 1877, he took the contract for carrying the mail between Ft. Thompson and Ft. Sully. He retained this job until December, 1878, when he took over the Ft. Pierre-Rapid City Route.

Mrs. Jones died in 1881 and Mr. Jones and 3 children then made their home in Pierre. Four children had been born to this marriage, namely, Charles, William, Mabel and a baby. The baby died in infancy and Mabel passed away in Pierre in 1910. The sons, now men with families, live on the Cheyenne reservation.

On March 1, 1883, Mr. Jones entered the government service as Boss Herder for the Big Bend portion of the local reservation, which position he held until July 1, 1890.

President Arthur opened the reservation to settlement on Feb. 28, 1885. Many home-seekers rushed in and staked out claims. Ten days after the Arthur proclamation President Cleveland rescinded that action-158

and ordered the would be homesteaders to withdraw. Soldiers were sent to remove the most obstinate ones.

On June 30, 1887, he married Anna Jane Raber. To this parentage were born six children. Those living are Mrs. Charles Fratzke, Mrs. Charles Coler, Mrs. Jesse Albright and Samuel. Mrs. Jones has a daughter, Annie, by previous marriage, who is now Mrs. Joe Knight.

On February 14, 1896, the Jones home at the mouth of Chapelle creek was burned. A large part of "Hank's" diaries burned.

From the remaining records we catch a glimpse of current happenings in this prairie river country in early days. The diaries were kept while Mr. Jones ran a road ranch. Mention is made of prospectors, traders, outlaws, homeseekers, and Indians, stopping for meals or lodging at the Jones quarters. The stage usually carried from one to half a dozen passengers.

"Hank" says he liked the old days better. More people were traveling; life was freer, neighbors weren't so close.

The local Indians have a friendly and earnest respect for Mr. Jones, who has been so long in their midst, treating them fairly and never trying to take advantage of their meager business ability.

-South Dakota Historical Collection Vol. XI, Page 391-Written 1921

## For Mrs. Tutin's 80th Birthday

We're glad to be with you on this happy event

And pay honor to the 80 years of life you have spent.

In this country you've been a real pioneer;

And to you those days will always be dear.

We know you've had sorrow, trials and care!

But that shows you're human, for we all have our share.

But mixed in with this, you've had joy and gladness

And we find that they always outweigh our sadness.

You've given service and aid to many a friend;

In this, may you continue clear thru to the end,

For the sun still shines and the wind blows cold

But why tell you this, that story is old.

For you've endured Dakota, its snow and its heat,

And the real pioneer spirit is sure hard to beat.

And today with friends here gathered around

Our wish is that your life with joy will abound.

We might wish you travel, fame, riches and wealth,

But our wish for you is contentment, kind friends and good health.

May your life be enriched with friends loyal and true

And again our club says Happy Birthday to you.

-Composed by Mrs. Ray Pool.